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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/055,396	01/22/2002	Giovanni Lonoce	IT 010001	7187
24737	7590	01/10/2005	EXAMINER	
PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS P.O. BOX 3001 BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510			SHENG, TOM V	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2673	

DATE MAILED: 01/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/055,396

Applicant(s)

LONOCE ET AL.

Examiner

Tom V Sheng

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 15-20, 22 and 23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 15-20, 22 and 23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 September 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Examiner's Comment

1. The Examiner apologizes for the mistakes in the previous action; subsequently a new non-final action is prepared as below. Specifically, the Examiner did not realize in the amendment filed on 3/22/2004 that claims 17 and 18 introduces new matter with the use of "a first video signal" and "a second video signal", which are not in the original specification, claims, and drawings.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: the term "LCD" in line 2 needs to be expanded as "liquid crystal display, hereinafter LCD" so that there would be no confusion as to the meaning. Only the first instance as in claim 1 is requested. Appropriate correction is required.

Drawings

3. The replacement drawing of FIG. 1 is objected under 35 U.S.C. 132 because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132 states that no amendment shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material, which is not supported by the original disclosure, is as follows: the reference numeral 11 (representing the first video signal) and the reference numeral 22 (representing the second video signal).

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Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

Specification

4. The amendment filed on 9/23/2004 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132 because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132 states that no amendment shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows: "or a first video signal 11" on page 6, line 14, and "or a second video signal 22" on page 6, line 26.

Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

6. Claims 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter that was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

As for claim 17, line 4, the recitation "first video signal" and lines 5-6, 11, the recitation "second video signal" are not described in the original disclosure. Similarly for

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claim 18, line 4, the recitation "first video signal" and lines 6, 10, the recitation "second video signal" are not described in the original disclosure.

Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claim 1-13, 15, 16, 19, 20, 22 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuda et al. (US 5,978,041) in view of Murakami (US 6,069,449).

As for claim 1 and associated claims 8, 9, 13, 15, 16, 19, 20, 22 and 23, Matsuda teaches a system (image display system; fig. 48; column 38, lines 3-26) for increasing the brightness of a first portion (composition portion of picture B) of an LCD device (Matsuda's display device includes a liquid crystal display; column 42, lines 40-46) for displaying a video signal, the system comprising:

a signal-generating unit (picture signal output means 351; fig. 48) for supplying the video signal (picture signal or Video1) and control information (control signal or control voltage cont.), and

a video amplitude-modifying means (brightness conversion means shown in fig. 49 excluding picture display device 3101; column 38, lines 27-62) for increasing an

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amplitude of the video signal displayed on the first portion of the LCD device (such as liquid crystal display 9; fig. 12) in response to the control information (by adding the control voltage cont. to the variable power source 3113 and then supplied to the amplitude control means 3110 for picture B). Specifically, when displaying picture B, the control voltage cont. is increased from 0 V to p V thus increasing the amplitude and resulting in a bright picture B with brightness elsewhere kept unchanged (fig. 50; column 38, line 63 through column 39, line 14).

Matsuda does not teach however that the video amplitude-modifying means would decrease amplitude of the video signal displayed on a second portion of the LCD device in response to the control information.

On the other hand, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would also recognize that brightness of picture B could similarly be enhanced by using a negative control voltage cont. for portion outside picture B instead with respect to the amplitude control means 3110. This method works equally well as the claimed method and further consume less power due to a reduction of video signal amplitude outside picture B versus an increase of signal amplitude of picture B. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Matsuda's picture signal output means for brighter display of picture B as above that further reduces power consumption.

Still, Matsuda as modified does not teach a lighting unit for increasing an amount of light illuminating the LCD device in response to the control information.

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Murakami teaches a backlight used in LCD display. In particular, Murakami teaches a controller 24 that monitors backlight temperature and increasing the power of the backlight based on a backlight temperature signal via a control signal (figures 2 and 7, column 2, line 57 through column 3, line 20, and column 4, lines 22-51).

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would recognize that incorporating Murakami's backlight temperature feedback control into Matsuda's image display system, specifically in the brightness conversion means and the inherent lighting unit of Matsuda's liquid crystal display, would further enhance viewing under low temperature condition.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate Murakami backlight control into Matsuda's image display system so as to further maintain brightness in display even in a low-temperature environment. With this incorporation, the modified image display system's control information would have a control signal cont. for adjusting amplitude of video signal and a control signal for adjusting the brightness of the lighting unit of corresponding liquid crystal display.

As for claim 2, Modified Matsuda's amplitude control means 3110 and DC control means 3111 read on claimed video-processing circuit. Modified Matsuda's picture composition means 3103 and interface 352 read on claimed video adapter and control unit, respectively.

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Claims 3 and 4 are rejected per analyses of claims 1 and 2 with the portion outside picture B reading on claimed second portion. Further, maintaining a color just means maintaining the intensities of the respective primary color (R, G, B) signals.

As for claim 5, Matsuda's amplitude control means 3110 that controls the amplitude of a picture signal (Video1) based on a control signal (cont.) reads on claimed controllable amplifier.

As for claim 6, Matsuda's ROM 3405 reads on claimed memory in which a look-up table is stored.

As for claim 7, Matsuda's amplitude control means is within display means 350. However, its location can be changed to at the picture signal output means without affecting the operation of the display system. Modified Matsuda's signal amplitude for portion outside picture B reads on claimed first amplitude for the video signal displayed on the second portion of the LCD device, wherein the first amplitude is smaller than second amplitude of the video signal displayed on the first portion (i.e. picture B) of the LCD device.

As for claims 10-12, it is not patentively distinct whether the control information is in a coded form or not since the coding/decoding merely serves to facilitate the integrity and/or speed of information transferred.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-13, 15, 16, 19 and 20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tom V Sheng whose telephone number is (703) 305-6708. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am - 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala can be reached on (703) 305-4938. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Tom Sheng
January 5, 2005


Amare Mengistu
Primary Examiner